BigBOSS Quasar/LyA Forest Targeting

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BigBOSS Collaboration Meeting

LBNL

19 November 2009







Bigg BOSS



India's version of "Big Brother..." (groan)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCEGBgQyh54

Outline

1. BigBOSS Quasar Survey: 1<z<2

2. BigBOSS LyA Forest Survey: z>2.2

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(Broad) Lines

| | z=1.0 | z=1.7 | z=2.0 | z=2.2 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| LyA | 2430 | 3280 | 3645 | 3890 |
| CIV | 3098 | 4182 | 4647 | 4957 |
| CIII] | 3816 | 5151 | 5724 | 6106 |
| MgII | 5600 | 7560 | 8400 | 8960 |
| [OIII] | 10,014 | 13,519 | 15,021 | 16,022 |
| Ηα | 13,130 | 17,722 | 19,692 | 21,005 |

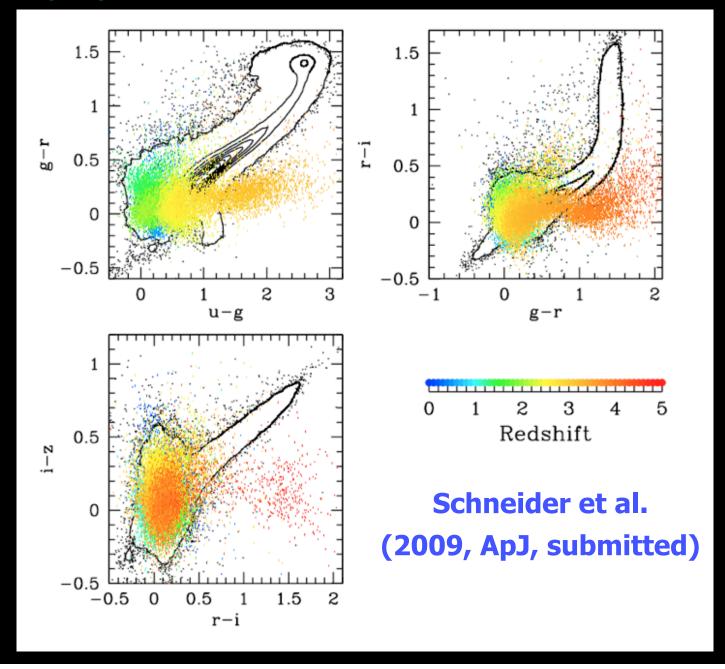
BigBOSS Quasar Survey - Requirements

- 2.7 million quasars
- Redshift range 1.0 < z < 2.0
- Target density 150 deg⁻²
- Limiting magnitudes

$$(u, g, r, i) = (24.0, 23.5, 23.3, 23.1)$$

THIS IS THE HARD BIT....

Good news...



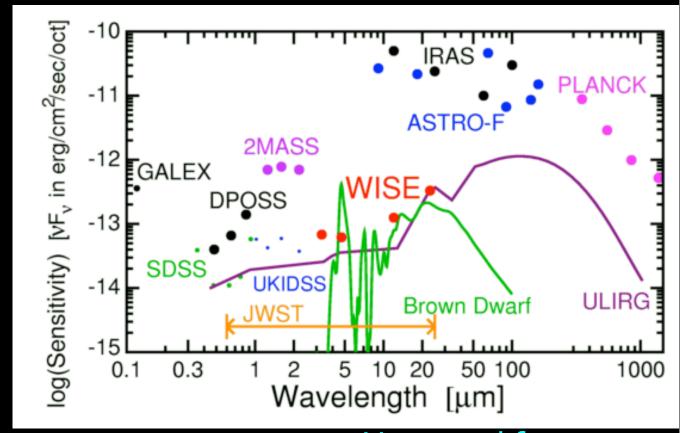
Today...

- Photometric DR6 Quasar Catalogue (Richards et al. 2009)
- 1.1 million photometrically selected quasars, i=21.3
- \sim 300,000 with 1.0<z<2.0 @ 35 deg⁻²
- Efficiency > 90%

WISE (Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer)

http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~wright/WISE/

- MIDEX Class mission (WMAP, Swift)
- 3.3, 4.7, 12 and 23 µm
- 40 cm
- Whole sky, 47 arcminute FoV;
 11s exposures



Probably too shallow for new Type 1 Quasars Very good for obscured Type 2
 AGN e.g. Assef et al. arXiv:0909.3849v2

Outline

1. BigBOSS Quasar Survey

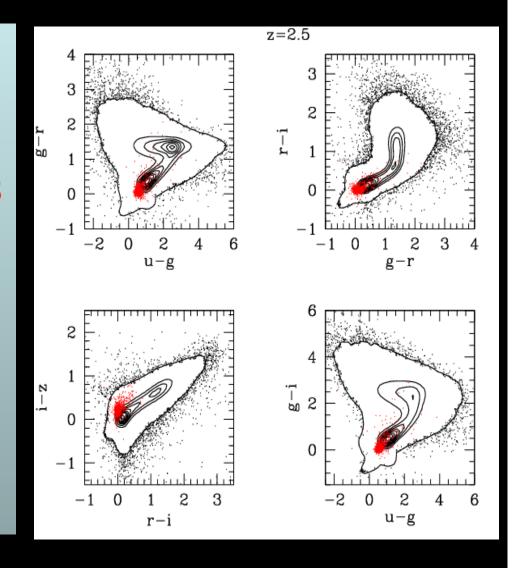
2. BigBOSS LyA Forest Survey

BigBOSS LyA Survey - Goals

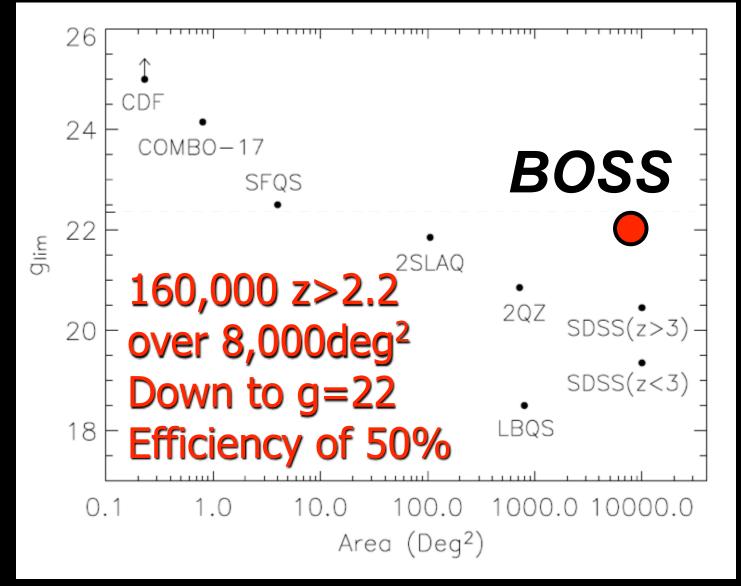
- 480,000 1 million LyA Forests
- Redshift range 2.2 < z < 4.0
- Target density 40-80 deg⁻²
- Take our cues from "hinky-dink"
 BOSS... (© A. Bolton)

Issues

- Current "State-of the Art" DR7 has ~11,000 2.2<z<3.5 quasars
- Quasar number counts fall FAST beyond z~2 peak (Richards et al. 2006; Jiang et al. 2006, Hopkins 2007)
- Snag is 2.2<z<3.5
 objects defy color
 selection method.



Pushing the envelope (twice)....



Jiang et al. (2006), Fig. 2

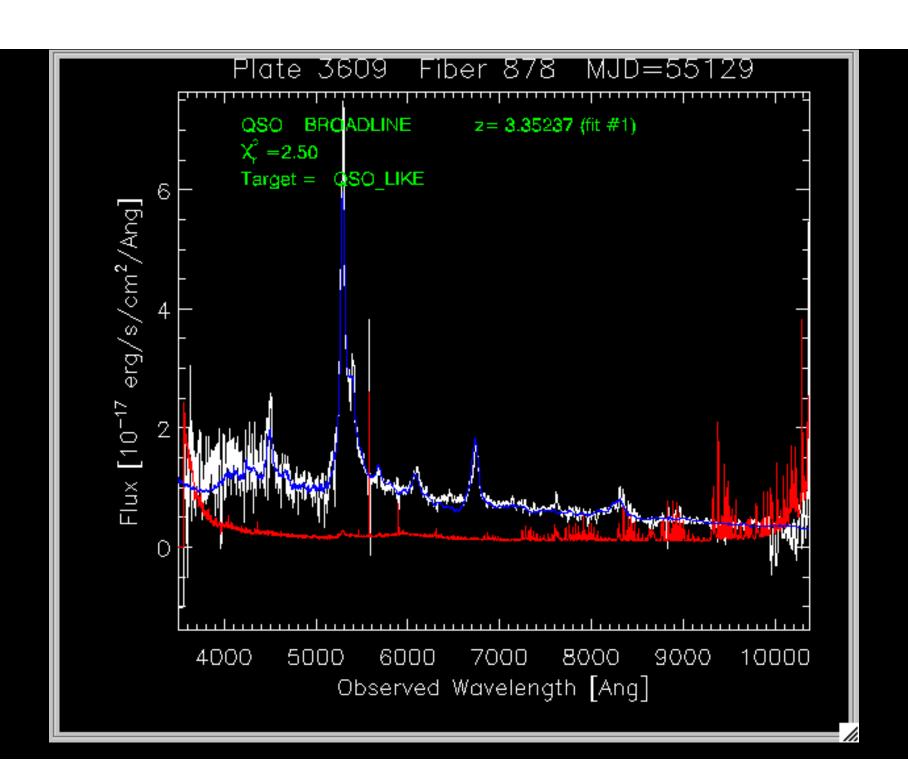
BOSS Quasar Selection for LyAF - current

- Extended "KDE" method used to select SDSS photo-z (e.g. Richards et al. 2009)
- "Neural Networks" (C. Yeche talk)
- Likelihood method
- All just using ugriz

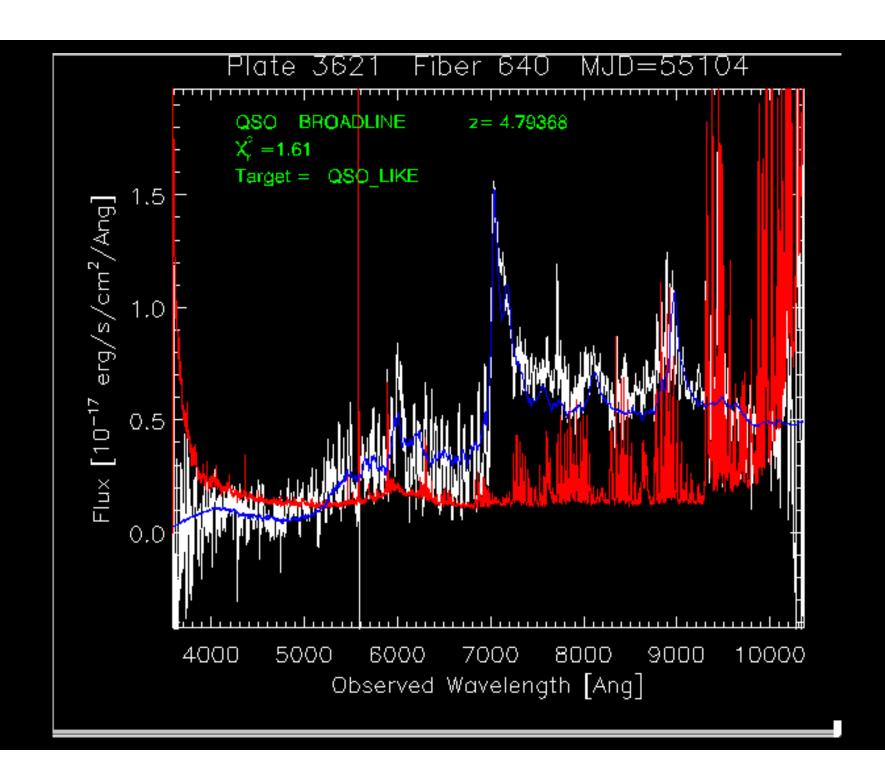
BOSS Quasar Selection for LyAF - future

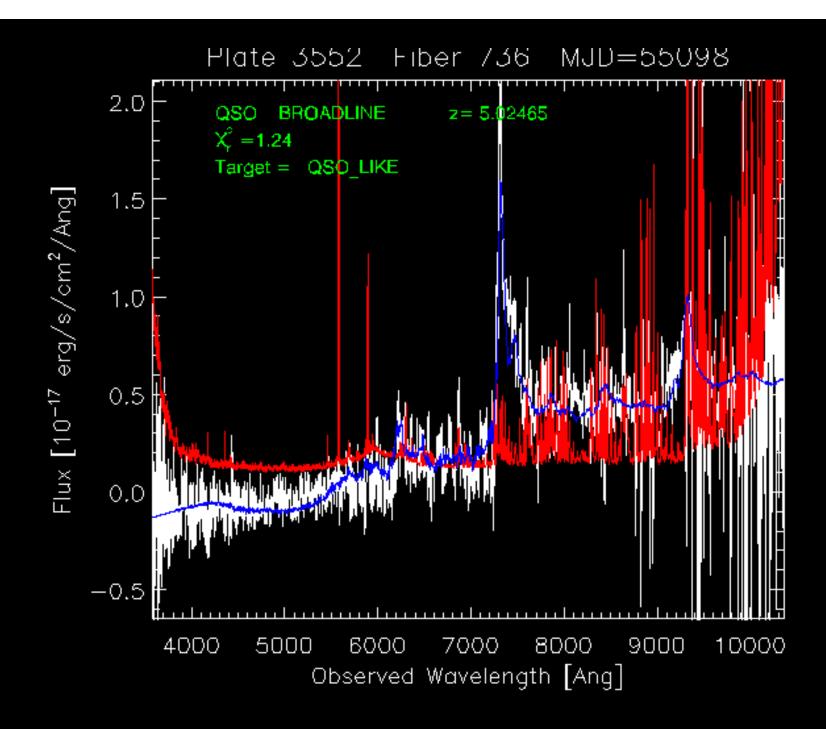
- "Re-train"
- Variability Palomar Transit Factory
 (P. Nugent's talk)
- GALEX FUV/NUV information (see Gabor Worseck's talk)
- NIR: UKIDSS (?)

Data (from 25th October 2009)

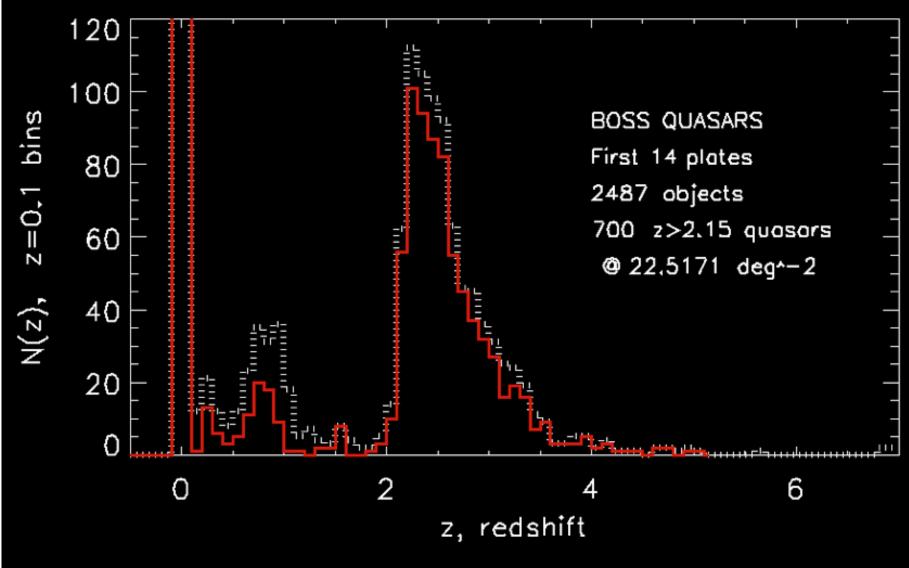


Data (current "poster childs")





First BOSS Results!!



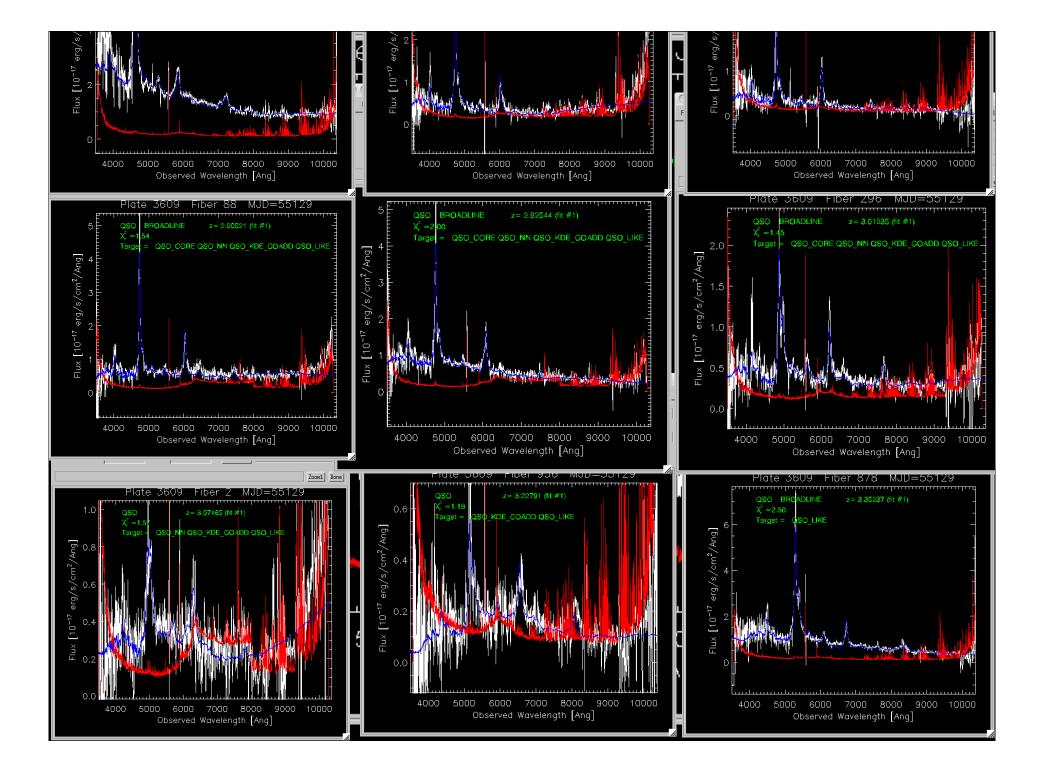
Ross et al. (2010, in prep.)











First (sub per cent) BOSS Results!!

- We're on our way!
- 1 / 60 months (1.7%)
- 14 / 2000 plates (0.7%)
- 31 / 8,000 deg² (0.4%)
- 2487 / 320,000 quasar targets (0.8%)
- 700 / 160,000 z>2.15 quasars (0.4%)